

**COUNCIL POLICY
CITY OF CHULA VISTA**

SUBJECT: Sewers - Maintenance

**POLICY
NUMBER**

**EFFECTIVE
DATE**

PAGE

(FORMERLY COUNCIL POLICY NO. 400-01)

570-01

02/21/84

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ADOPTED BY: Resolution No. 4377

DATED: 04/18/1967

AMENDED BY: Resolution No. 9556 (4/10/1979); Minute Action (02/21/1984)

BACKGROUND

The City Council has heretofore eliminated property line cleanouts for sewer laterals providing now for a cleanout within three feet of the building. Therefore, maintenance of sewer laterals has now been assigned to the property owners and only the maintenance of sewer mains is assumed by the City and is the responsibility of the City.

PURPOSE

Establishing sewer lateral maintenance policy.

POLICY

The following sewer lateral maintenance policy is hereby adopted by the City Council.

1. The maintenance of the sewer lateral from the main line to residence shall be the responsibility of the property owner.
2. If a stoppage occurs, the property owner shall be responsible for determining through the use of a licensed cleaning service or a licensed plumber using adequate power driven equipment with root cutters, the location of said stoppage, i.e., whether the stoppage is in the lateral or in the main.
3. If the stoppage cannot be cleared by a licensed sewer cleaning service or licensed plumber using adequate power driven equipment with root cutters, the property owner may, after terminating the commercial service, contact the Department of Public Works to clear the stoppage. The property owner shall enter into an agreement on the designated form with the City for such services, and must reimburse the City as set forth in the Master Fee Schedule.
4. If it is determined by the City after such assistance that the stoppage was clearly not in the sewer lateral, but was located in the sewer main, the City will assume liability for bills or other expenses incurred by the property owner through the use of such a licensed cleaning service in relieving or determining the cause of the stoppage; provided, further, that in the event the stoppage occurs in the lateral within the public right-of-way as a result of street tree roots, the City will replace the lateral at its expense in accordance with Council Policy Number 576-05 (formerly 200-05).
5. If sewer laterals must be relocated due to the construction of projects sponsored by the City, the City will bear the cost of this relocation.
6. If the existing sewer lateral serving the property is not adequate because of size, depth, location or any other factor, the entire cost of any corrective work shall be borne by the property owner.